SUBJECT No. 139.

Sanskrit to be made one of the second languages for the Lower Secondary Examination.

Mr. S. R. Balakrishna Rao, Mysore University.

Mr. S. R. Balakrishna Rao represented that Sanskrit might be made a second language instead of an optional subject for the Lower Secondary Examination. If Kannada was also compulsory, then there would be the difficulty of studying the three languages; hence Sanskrit might be substituted for Kannada.

The Inspector-General of Education pointed out that Sanskrit was only an optional subject. A boy who took up the subject need not read any other subject. Kannada was compulsory.

The Second Member of Council remarked that the object of making Kannada compulsory was to encourage the vernacular.

The Dewan replied that if Sanskrit was made compulsory, boys might leave off Kannada, which being the national language must be read.

SUBJECT No. 140.

Teaching of science subjects in vernacular in the High School classes.

Messrs. A. Ananthiah, C. Subba Rao and P. Venkappiah, Shimoga Taluk.

Mr. A. Ananthaiya said that the question of teaching science subjects in vernacular in high school classes was discussed long ago and it was said that there was not enough funds for the purpose. He suggested that, at least, a suitable allotment might be made for the purpose of translating science books into Kannada.

The Dewan replied that there was practical difficulty as all books were only in English.

SUBJECT No. 141.

Rural science classes.

Mr. H. G. Basavappa, Shimoga District Board.

Mr. H. G. Basavappa represented, that as all the boys could not be expected to study for higher examinations and learn other professions, a taste for agriculture should be created in boys and arrangements made for imparting lessons in agriculture in all rural schools.

The Dewan replied that in primary schools nature study was prescribed. Regular agricultural lessons would be taught in middle schools.

SUBJECT No. 142.

Faculties for technical courses in the Mysore University.

Mr. G. Girimaji Rao, Kolar Taluk.

Mr. G. Girimaji Rao requested that faculties for technical courses may be instituted in the Mysore University.

The Dewan referred the member to his opening Address.

SUBJECT No. 143.

Removal of restrictions prohibiting the students of Anglo-Vernacular schools from appearing for the Mysore Vernacular Lower Secondary Examination.

Messrs. Sunkada Raghanna, Molakalmuru Taluk; P. Srinivasa Setty, Nanjangud Municipality, and V. Bandaiya, Nanjangud Taluk.

Mr. Sunkada Raghanna said that the rule that the students of the Anglo-Vernacular schools should not sit for the Vernacular Lower Secondary Examination caused inconvenience to many students.

Mr. H. Krishna Sastry said that according to the revised rules published in the Gazette, it was compulsory to the students of the Anglo-Vernacular schools to study English also, if they are to sit for the Lower Secondary Examination. The case of boys who read Kannada only was not taken into consideration. He considered it necessary that the Kannada Lower Secondary Examination should be arranged to be held in future also to give facility to students that did not read English.

Mr. Ananthaiya said that there were many students who would be satisfied with Kannada Lower Secondary Examination. If this examination was abolished, there would be no chance for them at all. Hence the old system need not be abolished.

Mr Karnick Krishnamurthi Rao said that there was no necessity for students desirous of studying Kannada to learn English also. There was the Upper Secondary Examination which was also intended for the study of Kannada. In case a student desired to learn English, he had the chance of appearing for English Lower Secondary or S.S.L.C. To make English compulsory for a student who wanted to study only Kannada was an unnecessary burden on him. In villages only a few boys read. They would not be given any English teacher. If they are forced to study English also, they will have to lose even the chance of passing the Kannada Lower Secondary Examination. He argued that the abolition of this examination was not therefore desirable.

Mr. L. Vema Reddy opposed this view and said that if the new rule was not introduced, English would be neglected. The restriction was therefore very advantageous as boys could study English, though, out of compulsion. He was of opinion that English should therefore be necessarily made compulsory. If a boy passed, at least the English Lower Secondary Examination, he could have some knowledge of English and get on in the world.

The Inspector-General of Education explained that students of the 1st, 2nd or 3rd forms were allowed to appear for the examination if they were certified to have read up to the standard of the Kannada 5th class in the subjects. He added that ultimately there would be only one kind of examination and a boy must read both English and Kannada, and the examination would be in Kannada. English was made compulsory as the general demand was that every one should learn English. Students that had already read up to Kannada 5th class would not be inconvenienced in any way. English was compulsory even for Upper Secondary.

The Dewan observed that the complaint was that Kannada Lower Secondary students would lose two years, when they go up for English Lower Secondary. The Representative Assembly was consulted about this in 1919 and members were agreeable to introduce a uniform bilingual type of middle schools and a consequent bilingual examination. Those that wanted to appear for the Vernacular Lower Secondary Examination would not be prevented from doing so. He assured them that there was no idea of stopping the Kannada Lower Secondary Examination for 4 or 5 years.

SUBJECT No. 144.

Giving equal privileges to Mahrattas and Rajputs in educational institutions.

Mr. Ramachandra Rao Scindia requested that Mahrattas and Rajputs who were also backward in education and who also took part in war might be given the same concessions for education of boys as Mahomedans.

Dewan.—Noted.

Mr. Ramachandra Rao Scindia, Mysore Chamber of Commerce, Bangalore.